

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image capturing apparatus, comprising:

a photographic optical system for projecting an image of a subject;

an imaging device for converting the projected image into an image signal and outputting it;

a focus driving device which changes a focusing condition of the image projected to said imaging device by relatively moving at least one of a part or an entire of said photographic optical system and said imaging device to the other;

a ranging device configured to measure a subject distance to said subject;

a first auto focusing device ~~configured to perform a high focusing accuracy~~ which is a charge coupled device auto focus (CCDAF) configured to obtain and evaluate sequentially an image signal according to each focusing condition changed by relatively moving at least one of a part or an entire of said photographic optical system and said imaging device, thereby obtaining a predetermined focusing condition based on an evaluation result on said image signal;

a second auto focusing device ~~configured to perform a high focusing speed~~ which is an auto focus (AF) including the ranging device configured to obtain a focusing condition according to said subject distance obtained by said ranging device; and

a controlling device for controlling an operation of said first auto focusing device, and ~~a ranging device for measuring a subject distance to said subject;~~

wherein said controlling device is configured to switch between said first auto focusing device and said second auto focusing device ~~to prioritize either said high focusing accuracy or said high focusing speed~~ according to said subject distance obtained by said ranging device.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controlling device controls said first auto focusing device so as to carry out an evaluation in a peripheral focusing range of a focusing condition which corresponds to said subject distance obtained by said ranging device, and sets said peripheral focusing range in accordance with said subject distance.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said controlling device sets said peripheral focusing range wider when said subject distance is more than a predetermined distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing accuracy~~ and sets said peripheral focusing range narrower when said subject distance is less than said predetermined distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing speed~~.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controlling device switches between operation first auto focusing device and said second auto focusing device to operate said first auto focusing device when said subject distance is more than a predetermined distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing accuracy~~ and to operate said second auto focusing device when said subject distance is less than said predetermined distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing speed~~.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said controlling device controls said first auto focusing device so as to carry out said evaluation in said peripheral focusing range of said focusing condition which corresponds to

said subject distance obtained by said ranging device, and sets said peripheral focusing range in pursuant to a presence or an absence of said subject which is mixed with a long distance and a short distance that is based on the distance to said each area.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said controlling device sets said peripheral focusing range wider when said subject is not in a condition mixed with the long distance and the short distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing accuracy~~ and sets said peripheral focusing range narrower when said subject is in the condition mixed with the long distance and the short distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing speed~~.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The image capturing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said controlling device switches between said first auto focusing device and said second auto focusing device to operate said first auto focusing device when said subject is not in a condition mixed with the long distance and the short distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing accuracy~~ and to operate said second auto focusing device when said subject is in the condition mixed with the long distance and the short distance ~~to prioritize said high focusing speed~~.